LIST OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A system for implementing a policy in a network, said system comprising:

a plurality of device-agnostic policy implementations, in which the device-agnostic policy implementations include non-security policy implementations;

a plurality of network devices, at least two of said devices being dissimilar, wherein a type of network device associated with a received device-agnostic policy implementation is identified by parsing tags of data from said received device-agnostic policy implementation represented using Extensible Markup Language (XML); and

a plurality of device translators, each device translator corresponding to a respective one of said plurality of network devices and one of said plurality of device-agnostic policy implementations, at least two of said device translators being dissimilar, each of said plurality of device translators translating said device-agnostic policy implementation into corresponding device-specific implementations, wherein subsequent additions or maintenance of any of said plurality of said plurality of network device-agnostic policy implementations are provided using device-agnostic files.

2. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation is selected from the group consisting of firewall, Virtual Private Network, Java 2 Enterprise Edition Application, and custom operating system.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said device-agnostic policy implementation implements a policy selected from the group consisting of access control, quality of service, backup, and availability.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said device translators are represented by Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) code.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The system according to claim 3, wherein said policy is represented by Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

7. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Command Line Interface (CLI) code.

8. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Application Programming Interface (API) code.

9. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the device-specific implementation is represented by Java code.

10. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method comprising:

representing a vendor-agnostic configuration using a processor in a computer connected to a computer network;

building a translator, using the processor, for a specific policy and vendor, in which the computer network includes a plurality of policies and vendors, the policies including non-security policies;

repeating the building for each type of policy and vendor;

identifying a type of device associated with a received vendor-agnostic configuration by parsing tags of data from said received vendor-agnostic configuration representing using Extensible Markup Language (XML), using the processor;

loading said translator into memory, using the processor, after identifying said type of device;

translating said vendor-agnostic configuration into vendor-specific configuration using said translator; and

repeating the identifying, loading and translating for each type of policy and vendor; and

providing subsequent additions or maintenance of any of said plurality of policies and vendors using device-agnostic files.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein said vendor-agnostic configuration is represented by Extensible Markup Language (XML) code.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein said translator is represented by Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) code.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said specific policy is selected from the group consisting of firewall, Virtual Private Network, Java 2 Enterprise Edition Application, and custom operating system.

14. (Original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said specific policy is selected from the group consisting of access control, quality of service, backup, and availability.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Command Line Interface (CLI) code.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Application Programming Interface (API) code.

17. (Original) The system according to claim 10, wherein the vendor-specific configuration is represented by Java code.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing instructions for implementing a policy in a computer network, said instructions comprising:

representing a vendor-agnostic configuration;

building a translator for a specific policy and a specific vendor, in which the computer network includes a plurality of policies and vendors, the policies including non-security policies;

repeating the building for each type of policy and vendor;

identifying a type of device associated with a received vendor-agnostic configuration by parsing tags of data from said received vendor-agnostic configuration represented using Extensible Markup Language (XML);

loading said translator after identifying said type of device;

translating said received vendor-agnostic configuration into vendor-specific configuration using said translator;

repeating the identifying, loading and translating for each type of policy and vendor; and

providing subsequent additions or maintenance of any said plurality of policies and vendors using device-agnostic files.